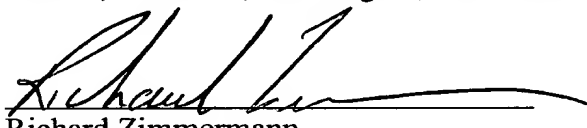


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JCOs Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 FEB 2001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: ) "EXPRESS MAIL"  
YAMADA *et al.* ) mailing label No. E1566464317us  
)  
International Application No.: ) Date of Deposit: February 27, 2001  
PCT/JP99/03682 )  
) I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is  
Filed: Herewith ) being deposited with the United States  
) Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST  
For: NUCLEIC ACID ) OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under  
SEQUENCES AND ) 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above  
METHODS FOR ) and is addressed to: Commissioner for  
ENHANCING EXPRESSION ) Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231  
OF A USEFUL GENE )  
)  
Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned )  
)   
) Richard Zimmermann  
Examiner: Not yet assigned )  
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 29, line 30, after "HCV1-341:5'-UTR<sub>341</sub>" please insert --(SEQ ID NO: 1, the nucleotide positions 1-341).

At page 29, line 30, after "HCV1-342:5'-UTR<sub>342</sub>" please insert --(SEQ ID NO: 7).

Please delete the Sequence Listing as originally filed and enter the Substitute Sequence Listing enclosed herewith.

09/763836-060901